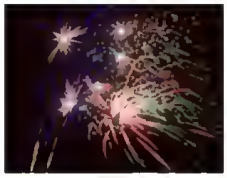
The
Bradford Times

www.bradfordtimes.ca $1.50 GST Included Thursday, January 3, 2013



Happy New Year!

Bradford West Gwillimbury celebrated its first First Night.

2

Intriguing proposal

Resident proposes a Canadian Pro Hockey League.

5

2012 in Review!

2012 saw the opening of the new BWG Leisure Centre.

8

Snow kiddin'!

Photo by Miriam King, Bradford Times

Owen, 6, enjoys the snow and tobogganing, at the hill at Bradford's St. Jean de Brebeuf School. Winter break continues.

Snow arrived just in time for a white Christmas - but also for winter fun, during Winter Break.

Students are off until January 7, enjoying tobogganing on local hills, winter "day camps" offered at locations like the Simcoe County Museum and Bradford Progress Child Care Centre, and a range of activities at the new Bradford West Gwillimbury Leisure Centre - including additional skating and swimming opportunities for the whole family.

Coming up: A Leisure Swim at the Lions Aquatics Centre on January 25 (PA Day), a Winter Wonderland in the Pool on January 26 from 1:15 to 3 p.m.

And on February 9, it's Hockey Day in Bradford West Gwillimbury - a day of hockey fun at the Bond Head Park.

Ticket to R.I.D.E.

The Festive Season R.I.D.E. Program - Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere - wrapped up on January 2, with South Simcoe Police continuing to nab impaired and drinking drivers on local roads.

In all, South Simcoe Police stopped a total of 7530 vehicles during the campaign, a decrease of 3% - but some stats actually increased.

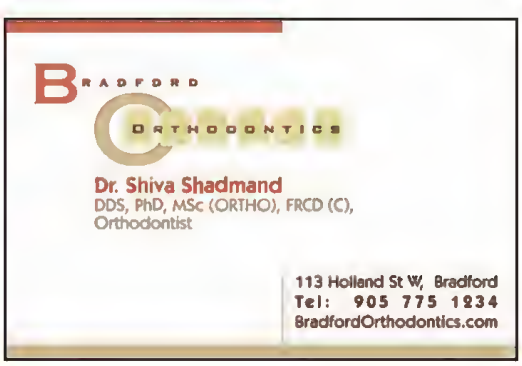
The number of roadside screening tests - generally administered when an officer detects an odor of alcohol - was up, from 366 during last year's Festive RIDE campaign, to 558, a 52% increase.

The number of Impaired/Over 80 charges was also up - from 20 in 2011, to 34, a 70% increase.

But the number of WARN Range suspensions, after an initial spike, plummeted, from 75 to only 48, a 36% decline. And the number of drug offences was 18, a 38% drop.

There were some alarming incidents during the holiday season. Although not part of the R.I.D.E. initiative, Police

see RIDE Page 9



Welcoming the New Year, at First Night!

With a brand-new Leisure Centre, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury finally has a venue for hosting a family-friendly First Night celebration - a New Year's Eve party that included free activities and entertainment. Clockwise from lower left - free swimming in the Lions Aquatic Centre; the Giant Tiger greets fans; Poppy Paints Face Art for Sara, 7; BWG Mayor Doug White and daughters Jamie and Jaclyn join the skaters at the two rinks; Brant Matthews the Fire Guy not only juggled indoors, he presented a great outdoor Fire Show, despite high winds and falling temperatures. The evening ended at 9 p.m. with a countdown led by the Mayor, and a fabulous fireworks show!

Fireworks photo by Paul Novosad

Blowing the whistle on GO

Peter Bailey is fed up with the sound of the GO Trains, passing through Bradford - especially with the possibility that weekend train service might become a regular feature along the Barrie-Bradford-Toronto Line.

The resident of Britannia Ave. has written in to complain about the noise from GO Train horns - claiming "over 600 horn blowing exercises each week, including trains at 1:15 and 4 p.m.", and calling on Council to support a project to "contribute to the cessation of this noise inflicted on the residents of this area."

Bailey is upset that money is available "for 'consultants' to pretty the downtown", but not for a program to quell the horns, and provide peace and quiet for residents living near the tracks.

In fact, GO Transit operates 5 trains southbound in the morning, and 5 trains northbound in the evening, along the Barrie-Toronto Line, Monday to Friday. The earliest train rolls into Bradford at 5:51 a.m.; the final train in the evening comes through town at 7:16 p.m.

If there are earlier - or later - trains, they may be CN freight trains, not GO Transit.

But all trains do operate under Canadian Railway Operating Rules - which means they start sounding their whistle a quarter-mile before a crossing, and must whistle for a minimum of 20 seconds - 2 long blasts, followed by a short blast, and another long blast.

The whistles are sounded at every level crossing, from the 13th Line in Bradford West Gwillimbury, to the level crossing in King Township, just south of Bradford - but not at private crossings or farm crossings, unless the engineer spots persons or animals near the tracks.

How far the sound of the whistles will carry depends on terrain and the weather, but a Metrolinx spokesperson acknowledged that in Bradford, with so many crossings, "the crews are regularly whistling as they traverse this area."

Can the Town request a stop to the whistle-blowing? Train crews follow the CROR protocol for safety and operational reasons, the spokesperson said - but a municipality can apply for "non-whistle blowing status for particular neighbourhoods," by filing a request with Transport Canada.

The process involves notification of the rail authority and the public, and a detailed safety assessment of the grade crossings. If the crossings meet the criteria, the Town can pass a motion to discontinue whistles in the area, and call in a Transport Canada Railway Safety Inspector to confirm the safety assessment of the crossings.

The Inspector may identify some remedial actions to be taken first - such as brush clearing, or installation of additional gates - or may decide that safety demands that the whistles continue.

At any rate, the Town is responsible for the costs of any safety inspections or improvements, and increased insurance costs: should there be a collision involving a GO Train after the whistles have been stopped, the Town - and ultimately the taxpayer - would be liable.

That's been enough to deter most municipalities from asking for a whistle ban.

Crime Stoppers Month Flag-raising in Bradford

January is **Crime Stoppers Month**. Anyone with information regarding a crime is encouraged to call 1-800-222-TIPS. Callers do not have to identify themselves or testify in court, and may be eligible for a cash reward. There will be flag-raising at 11 a.m. on January 4 at the Bradford Court House.

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South Simcoe Police report

Weapons Dangerous, Threats

At about 10 a.m. on Dec. 27, South Simcoe Police were called to a residence in Innisfil, where a woman clearing snow was approached by a male in his vehicle, who pulled alongside and brandished a knife, making a threatening gesture through the closed window of his vehicle. The man was known to the woman, and had been placed on a Peace Bond in November 2012, which included the condition of not being within 100 metres of her residence. Fearful, the woman called 911 and notified police of the incident. Officers attended, and located the man still in his vehicle, a short distance away. The 78 year old Innisfil man was arrested for Weapons Dangerous, and returned to North Division, where be was also charged with Utter Threats, and Breach of Recognizance, and held overnight for a bail hearing in Barrie.

Thefts from Autos

Overnight on December 23-24, South Simcoe Police received 3 reports of thefts from vehicles in the Summerlyn subdivision. Two people reported having laptops stolen from their vehicles. Another had a 50" flat screen TV stolen. Anyone with information regarding these thefts is asked to contact South Simcoe Police at 905-775-3311 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

Police remind residents to be vigilant about locking vehicles, and ensuring that valuables are out of sight, or secured in the trunk of the car.

Impaired in Collision

At about 2:26 p.m. on Dec. 23, Police were called to a collision at the 6th Line and 20 Sideroad in Innisfil. A Chev pick-up truck eastbound on Concession 6 approaching 20 SR failed to stop for the stop sign, entered the intersection, and struck a southbound SUV and northbound Chev car. The driver of the pick-up truck, a 34 year old Innisfil woman, was arrested for Impaired operation of a motor vehicle. All 3 vehicles suffered extensive damage, but injuries were "minor."

Over .080

At 8:16 p.m. on Dec. 22, South Simcoe Police received a call from an employee of a Bradford restaurant, advising that a male had been cut off from drinking, and was refusing a taxi. The man was seen getting into his vehicle, and driving onto Holland St. Police attended and located the vehicle, near the owner's residence. The driver showed signs of alcohol consumption, and failed a roadside screening test. Further breath tests at South Division resulted in readings over the legal limit; the 60 year old Bradford man was charged with Over .080, his licence was suspended for 90 days, and his vehicle seized for 7 days. He was released on a promise to appear for court in the New Year.

Safe Roads , Your Call

At about midnight on Dec. 23, Police received a call from a citizen following a possible Impaired driver, who was driving erratically, speeding, and almost struck another vehicle. Police located the vehicle in the area of Holland St. W. and Summerlyn Trail in Bradford, and arrested the driver, a 49 year old Concord male. He was transported to North Division for breath tests, which registered over the legal limit, and charged with Impaired Care and Control, and Over .080 mgs. He received a 90 day Administrative driver's licence suspension, had his vehicle impounded for 7 days and was released on a promise to appear for court.

Public Intoxication

On Dec. 16 at 12:53 a.m., an officer observed a 26 year old Bradford man stumbling on Simcoe Rd. in Bradford, drinking a beer. When the man saw the officer, he threw the beer onto a nearby lawn - but was carrying other beers, and admitted to drinking 8 beers. He was arrested and charged with Public Intoxication, and Having/ Consuming liquor in public.

Ask Dr. Michelle....

Holland Street Veterinary Services in the West Park Plaza

Lost, Stolen or Found Pets

At least once a week, Holland Street Veterinary Services gets another posting for lost, stolen or found pets. Sadly, happy reunions are not always possible.

Luckily, identifying your pet is easy. First, get a collar to let people know your pet bas a home. Cats sbould bave break away collars. Next, I recommend an ID tag with your current contact information and pet's name as well as Rabies and license tags. When a collar goes missing, a microchip is invaluable. Microchips offer permanent identification below the skin in the neck area. It's very important to remember to update your current information after a move, phone number change or change of ownership.

Allowing pets to roam unattended off leash is to be discouraged. Sbould you lose your pet, act quickly. Contact your neighbors, veterinarian, breeder (if applicable), and local veterinarians. Put up poster, post kijiji ads and never underestimate the power of social media. Animal control and the OSPCA should be contacted as well as local dog rescues. Posting a reward may belp bring the pet bome faster.

For more information on microchipping your pet, contact your local veterinarian.

905-775-4787 www.hollandstreetvet.com

New hours for Police Station

A reminder: Starting December 29, both the South Division and North Division police stations of the South Simcoe Police Service will have no front counter service for walk-in inquiries on weekends, or after 11 p.m. on weekdays.

Inquiries regarding Police Record Checks, Pardon Applications, Parade and Special Event Applications, Insurance Reports, Freedom of Information requests and Ministry of Transportation of Ontario declarations must be brought to the front desk between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m., Monday to Friday.

For police emergencies, citizens can always contact a police officer after hours by picking up the red emergency telephone within the enclosed lobby of each station. The lobby areas are equipped with Closed Circuit television, allowing on-duty staff to monitor persons waiting in the lobby. If an officer is needed, one will be dispatched to assist.

The change is based on a 2-year workload analysis of the South Simcoe Police Service, and a canvass of 13 police services across Ontario. Only 3 of the 13 currently provide full front counter service, 24/7.

Frontline policing is not affected.

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comment

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MPP slams government for mismanagement, spending

Holland Landing - Ontario's Auditor General has uncovered new examples of government waste and mismanagement in his 2012 Report, released December 12, says York-Simcoe MPP Julia Munro. Just a few of those examples include $24 million spent on an electronic diabetes registry that didn't work and was scrapped; a transit card for Toronto that could cost up to $700 million - making it the most expensive system in North America; and an increase in OPP costs of 27% over the past 5 years, despite declining crime stats and declining or unchanged calls.

The MPP says the report is another indication that a new government is needed. "The Liberals have shown that they do not have what it takes to root out waste and mismanagement," she said. "If Ontario is ever going to get back to a balanced budget, it looks like we'll need a new government."

Munro also slammed the Liberals for keeping the legislature shut down. It's been 2 months since Premier Dalton McGuinty prorogued the Ontario Legislature - just as questions over the cancellation of two "peaker" power plants were heating up.

"The Liberals obviously aren't prepared to face the tough questions raised in this report," Munro said. "If they were, why wouldn't they recall the legislature?"

Prorogation has left MPPs unable to do their work at Queen's Park, with no committees in session, and no debates in the legislature. Munro called on McGuinty to recall the legislature.

"This (report) by the Auditor General raises even more issues that MPPs should be dealing with at Queen's Park. There is no excuse for the Liberals to continue putting their own partisan interest ahead of the public interest."

Influenza hits a peak in Ontario

Influenza is on the rise in Ontario.

In 2011, there were only 15 lab-confirmed cases of flu, between September 1 and December 10.

This year, the number of cases in the same time period was 729.

There is still time to get a flu shot, in advance of the second wave of influenza activity. Residents are encouraged to get immunized at their physician's office, or any Rexall Pharma Plus.

Studies show that the Influenza Immunization Program annually saves the health care system 30,000 visits to hospital emergency rooms, and 200,000 visits to doctors' offices. And this year's shot is especially effective against the strains of influenza now in circulation.

Tips to preventing the flu:

. **Get your flu shot.**

. **Wash your hands frequently**, with warm water and soap, for at least 20 seconds. An alcohol-based hand sanitizer can also be effective in killing viruses.

. **Keep your hands away from your face**; the flu virus generally enters the body through the eyes, nose or mouth.

. **Cough and sneeze into your arm**, not your hand. If you use a tissue, dispose of it as soon as possible, and wash your hands.

. **Keep common surface areas - door knobs, light switches, telephones, keyboards - clean and disinfected.** Viruses can live on hard surfaces for up to 48 hours.

. **If you get sick, stay home**, until your symptoms are gone. If symptoms get worse, see your health care provider.

Free Cancer Lecture

Stronach Regional Cancer Centre at Southlake in Newmarket is offering a free lecture series on cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment. The next lecture takes place Tuesday, January 15 - **Cancer Screening Sees What you Can't**, presented by Joy Elkayam MSc. The lecture takes place in the Centre's lobby level conference room at 5:15 p.m.

Free, but please pre-register at 905-895-4521 ext. 6947. For information, see ***www.southlakeregional.org*** under "Southlake Events."

Trying it on for size. Santa Claus paid a visit to EduKids Child Care Centre in Bradford on December 12, to chat with the pre-schoolers, learn more about their Christmas wishes, and hand out special gifts, of a book for each little boy and girl. And one youngster got to try on Santa's hat.

letters to the editor

Carol Sing in Gilford

To the editor: I want to thank the residents of Gilford and local parents and kids for taking the time on Christmas Eve to do a Carol Sing, to help raise funds for the Children's Aid Foundation and the local school playground fund. The kids raised over $350 in under 2 hours, and brought Christmas Spirit and cheer to all, while learning the valuable lesson of giving back. Despite red noses and cold toes, they sang from the heart, to as many homes as possible.

It was a fun night for all, and we hope to organize another one next year, to keep the spirit of giving alive.

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and all the best for a safe and prosperous New Year.

Dawn Mucci, Gilford

Time to have the "S-Talk"

To the editor: Remember the awkwardness when it came to your first "S-Talk"? Fast forward to the present: I'm urging adults to have another S-talk with their loved ones - but this one is about stroke.

Why? Because too many Canadians don't know that it is crucial to call 911 immediately after stroke symptoms appear. Unfortunately two-thirds of Canadians arrive at hospital too late for treatments that can prevent damage, reduce disability and save lives.

For every minute of delay in treating a stroke, the average patient loses almost 2 million brain cells. For every hour of delay, that loss amounts to the equivalent of more than 3 years of normal aging.

More than 315,000 people in Canada are now living with some kind of stroke disability and the number of strokes in Canada is expected to double by 2020.

That's why the Foundation launched the S-talk campaign, at ***heartandstroke.ca*** We want every Canadian adult to talk to their parents and families about stroke warning signs and the need to seek treatment quickly.

For strokes caused by a blood clot, doctors can administer treatments such as a clot-busting drug called tPA (tissue plasminogen activator) - but these treatments are most effective if administered within 3 and a half hours of the onset of symptoms.

The key to preventing and treating stroke is awareness. Visit ***heartandstroke.ca/stroke*** to learn the signals of stroke as well as your personal risks. And please have the S-talk with the people you love.

Ian Joiner, Director of Stroke, Heart & Stroke Foundation

Alzheimer Awareness Workshop

CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors) and the Alzheimer Society of Greater Simcoe County are hosting an Alzheimer's Awareness Workshop on Thursday, January 10 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the CHATS MediChair office in Bradford, 448 Holland St. W. (Hakim Optical plaza). Are you caring for an aging parent, spouse, relative or friend who is living with Alzheimer's or another dementia? Come to this free workshop, to learn the facts about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and discover pro-active brain health strategies. Free, but please pre-register by calling toll-free, 1-866-677-9048 ext. 6226.

A proposal for a new Canadian League

Peter Davy is a sports fan, "typical retired guy", and a fixture at the Bradford Curling Club. He has an interesting proposal, sparked by the ongoing NHL lock-out.

The current situation in the NHL clearly demonstrates the level to which professional hockey has devolved. Fans are disgusted; many who can afford the exorbitant prices charged are questioning whether they want to continue to be nothing more than sheep to be fleeced by the players and owners.

Does the current strike take into account the interests of the fans who pay for the players' salaries, pensions, and the owners' profits? Do the players and owners ever consider the impact their greedy, selfish action is having upon those employed in ancillary businesses, from bars to parking lots? No!

As the players and owners squabble over who will get how many millions of the revenue that is stripped out of fans' pockets, their greed continues to foment discontent in the fan base who are expected to shut up and pay up for the farce being played out.

The following is a proposal for a Canadian Professional Hockey League (CPHL) that is not just desirable, but necessary. Fans are sick of the status quo and paying for the petty bickering between overpaid rich kids and fat cat owners more concerned with bottom line earnings than putting competitive teams on the ice. It is time for change.

The CPHL would have the following **OBJECTIVES**:

. Extend a hockey career for talented Canadian hockey players who did not make the NHL, and provide them with a reasonable salary.

. Create a league that offers affordable entertainment for fans of average means, and showcase the enthusiasm of Canadian players who truly love the game.

. Provide an additional venue for good Canadian talent that does not get an opportunity through existing channels to get exposure to NHL scouting.

. Create jobs for Canadians.

ORGANIZATION:

. No imports. All Canadian Players can play for any provincial team.

. Minimum of 10 teams, one for each Province - or possibly, 2 teams for Ontario, due to population, perhaps merging several of the smaller provinces.

. Each provincial team would play in 2 or 3 cities within the province, which have appropriate arenas, so that more Canadians would have the opportunity to attend a good hockey game. Ontario could have 4 arenas - e.g. Ottawa, Mississauga, Hamilton, North Bay. Predictably, fan support would increase when teams play in their home rink.

METHOD:

. Find league sponsors, and team provincial owners.

. Find arenas with at least 8,000 to 10,000 seating capacity.

. Control players' salaries, ranging from $75,000 to $250,000, and make money for sponsors and owners as well. Additional revenue could be generated from a Canadian TV contract - offering good Canadian content.

CHALLENGES:

. Travel - it's a large distance between the venues, coast to coast. Air Canada League sponsorship?

. Possible resistance from existing Jr. "A" level, concerned over a limited talent pool?

. Finding quality, responsible, enthusiastic owners and sponsors.

OPPORTUNITIES:

. The climate is right. Today's professional sport owners, player agents and players are destroying professional sports with their greed - most particularly hockey. Million dollar contracts make it impossible for owners to offer seats at a reasonable price for the average working person. Fans are jaded by the commercialism; the price of professional sports is out of reach, but the demand is there. Families are willing to pay a reasonable amount for an evening of entertainment - just give them teams who are playing for the fans, and want to play because of their love and passion for the game.

. There are many excellent hockey players not playing professionally for a number of reasons, which may have little to do with their level of skill.

. Provincial rivalry will develop, generate good interest, and fill seats.

. Canadians love hockey, and this would be a Canadian Hockey League, with exclusively Canadian hockey players.

Over time, this could become a good, competitive hockey league, helping players make a reasonable salary for years after their Junior "A" careers might typically have ended. It's obviously a massive undertaking, but with good management, good people and maximum effort, it is achievable.

- Peter Davy, A typical retired guy who loves Canada and Hockey.

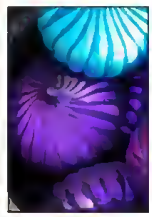
At the Danube Srs. Leisure Centre

The Danube Srs. Leisure Centre is located at 715 Simcoe Rd. Call 905-775-0612 for information on programs and activities.

Most activities are taking a break for the holidays, but will resume in January.

Coming up:

. Summer in January, on Saturday, January 26 - Lunch and entertainment for only $10 per person. Watch for details.!



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At the Bradford Legion Branch 521

Friday Night Meat Rolls take place every Friday at 6 p.m. at the Bradford Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, 115 Back St. in Bradford. Come out, enjoy a light dinner for a nominal fee - and perhaps win the meat for Saturday Dinner. On the first Friday of the month it's Karaoke with Bob Serran, starting at 8 p.m. following the Meat Roll. All welcome.

Do you want to stand behind our troops and veterans, enjoy comradeship and activities, and support youth programs in the community? Consider membership in the Legion. For more information, contact Donna at 905-775-5025.

The Legion is here for Canada's Vets. There is support available for veterans and their spouses, whether at home, or in a nursing home or care facility. You don't have to be a Legion member to ask for assistance. Call Gord Dodgson at 905-775-4905.

Hosting a wedding, banquet, reception or dance? The banquet room at the Legion is available; call 905-775-5025.

TOWN COUNCIL

Members of the public are invited to attend all Council, Committee of the Whole and other Committee meetings. Meeting dates, times, and agendas are available from the Town's website at www.townofbwg.com.

For further information or to request a deputation, please contact the Clerk's Department.

Regular Meetings of Council & Committee of the Whole (after Council Meeting) - Council Chambers, 57 Holland St. E.

- Tues. Jan. 15/13 @ 7:00 p.m.

BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Active Transportation Committee

Thurs. Jan. 10/13 @ 7:00 p.m., BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Zima Room, 425 Holland St. W.

Municipal Heritage Committee

Mon. Jan. 14/13 @ 7:00p.m., BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Boardroom, 425 Holland St. W.

Seniors Housing Committee

Wed. Jan. 16/13 @ 7:00 p.m., Jonkman Room, 81 Melbourne Dr.

NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF LEISURE SERVICES
HOLIDAY ICE TIME AVAILABLE
Contact Teresa Fairbarn at 905-775-5359 Ext. 5202

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

Please remove ALL decorations and remove tree bag. The Public Works Department will pick up the trees starting the week of **January 7, 2013.** Please do not place trees out early as they may become frozen to the snow bank or covered in snow. Collection crews will not climb snow banks to retrieve or dig out trees.

HOLLAND MARSH DRAINAGE SYSTEM JOINT MUNICIPAL SERVICES BOARD

NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION

NORTH CANAL BANK ROAD

This Notice is to inform residents and business owners that North Canal Bank Road from Highway 400 to Simcoe Road may experience lane interruptions due to the Holland Marsh Drainage System Canal Improvement Project.

Construction commenced on July 3, 2011 and will continue in the area described above until further notice.

Construction hours remain from 7am to 7pm. Through traffic may be subject to lane reductions/interruptions intermittently during these working hours.

If you require additional information call the Holland Marsh Drainage System Joint Municipal Services Board at 905-778-4321 Please leave your name and phone number, with your concerns and someone will return your call promptly.

Thank you for your cooperation

NOTICES

PROPOSED PROCEDURAL BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Take Notice that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury proposes to amend Procedural By-law 2011-027, which governs the proceedings of Council and committees and conduct of its members.

The proposed amended procedural by-law will be considered by Council at its Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at the Council Chambers, 57 Holland Street East, Bradford, ON on January 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. or soon thereafter, at which time Council will hear any person who wishes to speak to the new by-law in Open Forum.

Copies of the proposed by-law will be available from the Clerk's Office, 100 Dissette St, Bradford, Unit 7 & 8 after January 7, 2013.

BRADFORD WEST GWILLIMBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Storytime @ your library

Our FREE story programs are approximately 30 minutes in length and include books, stories, songs and finger plays. Storytime and Tales for Twos include a craft. Each story session lasts 6 weeks.

Registration for BWG residents opens January 9

Session Dates: January 23 to March 1, 2013

Wednesdays:

Tales for Twos (2 yrs)	9:45 - 10:15 am
Storytime (ages 3-6)	9:45 - 10:15 am
Tales for Twos (2 yrs)	10:45 - 11:15 am
Storytime (ages 3-6)	10:45 - 11:15 am

Thursdays:

Creepers (up to 12 mos.)	9:45 - 10:15 am
Storytime (ages 3-6)	9:45 - 10:15 am
Walkers (12-23 mos.)	10:45 - 11:15 am
Storytime (ages 3-6)	10:45 - 11:15 am

How to Register: by phone at 905-775-3328 X 6114 or X 6119, or in person.
Late registrations will be accepted if space permits.

Winter Programs include: Creative Activities, Art With Purpose, Kids Groove, Family Music, Valuable Lessons. FREE programs include International Languages, Drop-In Family Saturdays, Lego Club, Chess Club, Read-aholics & Teen Advisory Group.

VISIT US ON-LINE AND ON FACEBOOK!

Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library
425 Holland St. W.
www.bradford.library.on.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is now accepting applications for the following position.

Procurement Contract (January-April)

2012-PC12

A complete description of job duties, qualifications and application instructions for this position can be found on the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury website at www.townofbwg.com under the Employment Opportunities section; or at the Town's Human Resources office as listed below.

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Human Resources Department
100 Dissette St, Unit 4 Box 100, Bradford, Ontario L3Z 2A7
Fax: 905 775-8633 or email hr@townofbwg.com
www.townofbwg.com

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, and will only be used for candidate selection.

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation will be provided in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

2013 Summer Employment and Co-op Opportunities

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is now accepting applications for the following positions for summer employment in the Department of Leisure Services;

Assistant Day Camp Supervisors
Day Camp Inclusion Facilitators
Head Day Camp Counsellors
Camp Counsellors
2013-OC01

Parks Maintenance
2013-PM01

Events Assistant
2013-EA01

Instructor/Lifeguard (Spring/Summer)
2013-AQ01

The Town is also accepting applications for the following co-op opportunities;

Water Co-op (May – August)
2013-WC01

Building Co-op (May – August)
2013-BC01

Wastewater Co-op (May – August)
2013-WW01

Support Analyst (May – December)
2013-SA01

Engineering Co-op (May - August)
2013-EN01

Procurement Co-op (May - August)
2013-PC02

A complete description of job duties, qualifications and application instructions for this position can be found on the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury website at www.townofbwg.com under the *Employment Opportunities section*, or at the Towns Human Resources office as listed below.

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Human Resources Department
100 Dissette St, Unit 4 Box 100, Bradford, Ontario L3Z 2A7
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The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation will be provided in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

New @ Bradford Library

A number of programs will be starting at the Bradford Public Library, 425 Holland St. West, in the new year.

Family Movies at the Library - 1:30 p.m. on Friday, January 4 in the Zima Room, see Disney's ***Brave.*** Free, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Kids Groove, with Nikki Forrester, ECE - an introduction to singing, ribbon movement, puppets, instrumental experimentation and the spoken word for kids ages. Five week session runs from January 7 to February 4 - from 9:45 to 10:15 a.m. for kids 4 to 23 months, and 10:30 to 11 a.m. for ages 2-6. $38 per child; $32 per additional child. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-register at the Bradford Library, 425 Holland St. West.

International Language After School Program for students in Grades 1 through 8, at the Library - Learn ***Tamil*** on Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 10 to May 30 - Free! Offered through The Learning Centre, but classes will be held at the Bradford Public Library. For information, call 705-725-8360 ext. 45160 or visit ***www.thelearningcentres.com***

Free Winter Storytime Sessions begin January 23 & 24 - with registration starting Weds., January 9
Babytime for Creepers (ages 4-12 months) - Thurs. 9:45 to 10:15 a.m. Must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.
Babytime for Walkers (ages12-23 months) - Thurs. 10:45-11:15 a.m. Must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.
Tales for Twos (2-3 years) - Weds. 9:45-10:15 a.m. **OR** 10:45 to 11:15 a.m. Must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.
Storytime (ages 3 to 6) - Weds. from 9:45 to 10:15 a.m. **OR** 10:45 to 11:15 a.m., **OR** Thurs. 9:45-10:15 a.m. **OR** 10:45-11:15 a.m.

Valuable Lessons Life Skills Workshops for Kids and Teens, starting Saturday, Jan. 12 - Confidence and Communication Skills. 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. Cost is $20 + HST. To register call 905-717-1759. Jan. 19 - Achieving Your Goals. Jan. 26 - Living a Balanced Life. Feb. 2 - Manners and Etiquette. Feb. 9 - Finance 101. See ***bradfordlibrary.on.ca*** for more information.

Art with Purpose - art classes for ages 6 to 14 at the Bradford Library, Jan. 24 to Feb. 28 on Thursday evenings, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Cost is $90 per student - for creative classes in sculpture (both plaster cast and clay), Print-making, Digital Media, and painting, using acrylic, watercolor and natural dyes. Includes all materials. Pre-register at the Library, in person at borrower services or by phone, 905-775-3328 ext. 6100.

Looking for Employment?

Looking to Hire?

bradford WORKS
community employment services

Your one-stop community employment centre offers a full range of Services to help to get you working – all at ***no cost.***

Bradford WORKS – *Community Employment Services*
95 Holland Street West, Unit 105
Bradford, ON L3Z 2A7

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO

(905) 778-9058
www.bradfordworks.ca

From Appalachia, to Cookstown

There's a little bit of Appalachia, tucked away in what used to be the Queenstreet Station, and the old Chestnut Inn in Cookstown.

That's where Dena Lee has opened The Story Gourd Workshop - a music shop that sells strings, pick-ups and "anything you need," but also Lee's hand-made cigar box banjos, and instruments made out of gourds.

A talented musician, Lee chose Cookstown for her new shop for two reasons. One, the largest supplier of gourds, Northern Dipper, is "just down the road."

And two, Jeff Menzies, one of the world's leading gourd banjo makers, was living nearby in the Churchill area. When Menzies decided to move to Jamaica, "I bought his equipment," she says.

Her instruments, made from gourds and fine woods, like Ontario black walnut, are all performance grade. She also makes limberjacks, mouth bows, and kalimbas - African thumb pianos - using gourd tops and recycled metal.

Lee's mother was from Appalachia. "In Appalachian culture, you use what you have in the mountains," she says, picking a bluegrass tune on one of her own banjos. "I grew up hearing this music, and didn't know what it was called."

The opening of Story Gourd Workshop coincided with Light Up Night in Cookstown, back in November. The Workshop featured live music, and an invitation to a Jigging contest, as well as demonstrations of instrument-making.

The Story Gourd Workshop is located at 9 Queen St. For more, see ***www.storygourdworkshop.com*** or call 888-893-2280.

Coming up: A Build Your Own Kalimba workshop, January 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Only $60 per person.

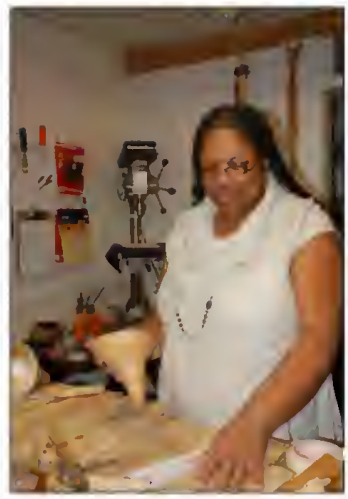


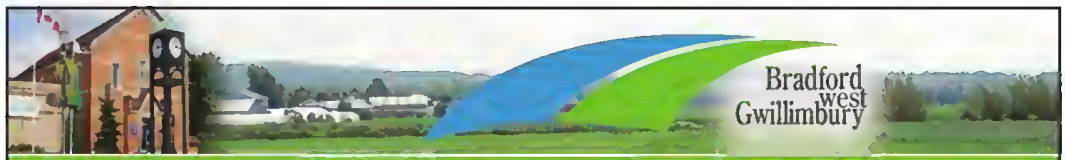
Photo: Dena Lee starts a kalimba, at her Story Gourd Workshop in Cookstown.

Academic Bridging Courses

The School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies at York Universities is holding two informational "Academic Bridging" Courses for women interested in attending university. The sessions will help women upgrade their reading, writing and speaking skills. Both courses are open to women 21 or older who are permanent residents of Ontario, and comfortable in both written and spoken English.

. Academic Bridging Course. A grade of "B" or higher will offer admission to the Faculties of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, and Glendon College. Orientation Session is Weds., January 9 at 6:30 p.m., at the North York Women's Centre, 2446 Dufferin St. (at Eglinton). Course starts Jan. 16 at the Centre - every Weds. from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., to April 10. Fee is $150, plus books.

see **Page 10**



NOTICES

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE PURSUANT TO SECTION29 OF THE *ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990 C. 18, AS AMENDED*

Old Bradford High School (circa 1923)
Pert of Lot 15 Conceasion 7, municipelly known ea 28 Queen Street, Town of Bradford Weat Gwillimbury

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bradford Wast Gwillimbury, on Novamber 6, 2012, resolved to giva notica of intent to designata 28 Queen Streat, undar Section 29 of tha Ontario Heritaga Act, R.S.O. 1990 c. 18, aa it is of cultural heritaga velue and interest.

Tha Old Bradford High School's haritaga valua lies in its strong associtian with tha local community and school board. Many of tha area's leading businass paopla, politiciana and professionals ware graduatas of the school. Tha school is an axcellant example of tha Classical Revival Style; it is unique within the town and region for the period, scale and execution. The untouched broad front lawn has retained the Old Bradford High School as a landmark.

Any objaction to this designation must be filed in writing within 30 daya of the date of publication of the notice of intention, being no later than February 4, 2013.

Objections should be directed to:
Rabecca Murphy, Director of Legal Sarvices/Clark
100 Dissette Street, Units 7 & 8,
P.O. Box 100
Bradford ON L3Z 2A7

Any inquiries may be directed to:
Geoff McKnight, Director of Planning & Development Services
(905) 775-5369 ext. 1401
gmcknight@townofbwg.com

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

TO ALL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS

Bradford West Gwillimbury By-law 94-047, Section 6.2 (e) as amended, is in force and effect, which does not permit parking on any Street between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. from November 1 to May 1.

Also, the Stopping-and-Parking of vehicles on sidewalks is prohibited.

Don't let a parking ticket ruin your day!

THIS IS A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO DOG OWNERS

DO NOT FOUL OUR SIDEWALKS AND PARKS
DON'T FORGET TO "STOOP AND SCOOP"

Dog waste is a public health hazard that takes the pleasure out of out door activities for all Bradford West Gwillimbury residents. Failure to clean-up and dispose of dog excrement is a violation of Section 4.9 of Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury By-law 2006-027 and can result in a fine of $205.00.

It is also a violation of Section 4.9 of By-law 2006-027 to let your dog run at large.

TOWN MANAGER, CLERK'S & ENFORCEMENT	ENGINEERING	FINANCE	FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	LEISURE CENTRE	LEISURE SERVICES	PLANNNING & DEVELOPMENT	VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
100 DISSETTE ST. UNIT 4, 7 & 8 PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A7 905.775.5369	100 HOLLAND CNT. PO BOX 419 L3Z 2A8 905-775-2056	61 HOLLAND ST. E. PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A8 905-775-5303	75 MELBOURNE DR. PO BOX 1220 L3Z 2B8 905-775-7311	471 WEST PARK AVE. L3Z 0J3 905-775-PLAY(7529)	125 SIMCOE ST. PO BOX 251 L3Z 2A8 905-775-5359	2541 LINE 11 PO BOX 160 L3Z 2A8 905-775-5369	www.townofbwg.com

2012: The Year in Review

January is usually a pretty quiet time of year, news-wise. Not in 2012.

Not only did the debate over the cost of Policing continue, following the 2011 adoption of a resolution to seek a costing from the OPP, but there were plenty of public meetings - for a Boundary Review process for the Town's Catholic elementary schools, a Transit Feasibility Study for Bradford, and up in Barrie, an announcement by Infrastructure Minister Bob Chiarelli, presenting revisions to the Provincial Growth Plan for Simcoe County.

The revisions changed little for Bradford West Gwillimbury - confirming its Employment lands along the Hwy. 400, and a population, on build-out, of about 52,000. But for Innisfil, there was important news: the Alcona settlement area was identified as an Urban Growth Node, making it eligible for higher densities, intensification, and potentially, grant funding.

February

February saw the end of one era - and the start of a new, with the opening of the rinks at the new BWG Leisure Centre, and the removal of the ice at the old Bradford Community Centre on Simcoe Rd. The final minor hockey game took place on February 5, while the puck dropped for the first game at the new Centre on February 6. Among the dignitaries attending the event were members of Brad's Fords - the men's hockey team that played the first game at the "new" Bradford & District Memorial Community Centre in 1956.

And there was a deadly ending to concerns over the lack of signage and unclear lane demarcations on County Rd. 88, in the area of construction west of Bradford. On Feb. 5, a westbound Honda Civic crossed into the eastbound lanes and struck an eastbound pick-up truck head-on, killing the driver of the Honda, identified as 29 year old Sonia Dehdezi of Bradford. Within 2 days, the lane markings were repainted, and reflectors installed.

Another public meeting: Residents of the new Summerlyn Subdivision, concerned over a series of daytime break and enters, meet with Police on Feb. 16 to discuss protection of property, crime prevention, and a possible Neighbourhood watch program.

March.

Wally Beck of HDR Inc. presented the findings of a Transit Feasibility Study to Council, March 6 - and recommended the implementation of a "fixed route shared taxi service" and a limited community bus service, to introduce transit to Bradford - and get a share of Provincial gas tax monies. He was asked to take the study one step farther - and look at the costs of implementation.

Director of Engineering Deb Korolnek was asked about the "real" cost of the 8th Line-Dissette St. widening - a project initially estimated at $12 to $14 million. Over a two year period, though costs escalated - especially for the "unprecedented" expropriation of lands required for the project. Land acquisition costs alone soared to $11.4 million "to date," said Korolnek - with perhaps another $2 million to go. Total cost? About $34 million, of which $3 million will be covered by taxpayers.

April.

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury awarded the tender for its first 2 outdoor splash pads in April - water play areas specifically geared towards tots. The cost of the 2 splash pads - one at the Lions Park, replacing the old Lions Outoor Pool; and the other at Kuzmich Memorial Park in Grand Central subdivision - totalled $447,324 plus HST.

The South Simcoe Police Service got a new Chief of Police in April. Rick Beazley, Chief of Strathroy-Caradoc police, was sworn in on April 16, and immediately pledged to undertake a search for efficiencies and "alternate forms of policing delivery" to bring costs down, and boost the morale at the police service which provides policing to both Innisfil and Bradford West Gwillimbury.

Wild winds on April 16 created dust-bowl conditions in the Holland Marsh, downed trees and hydro wires, and started a fire at a local dairy farm - whipping up embers in a burn barrel, and spreading the flames to an RV. A quick response by firefighters prevented the fire from spreading to a nearby barn containing livestock. On Hwy. 400, a gust of wind caught a southbound tractor-trailer, flipping it on its side, and blocking all lanes of southbound traffic.

A 5-week undercover investigation, by South Simcoe Police, Barrie Police and Toronto Police, led to the break-up of a major drug and stolen property trafficking ring, centred in a licensed establishment that fronted on Mary St. in Bradford. The investigation, Project Full Moon, resulted in the execution of 6 search warrants on April 19, and the arrest of 4 Bradford West Gwillimbury males. Officers seized cocaine, marijuana, oxycontin, morphine and methadone with a street value of about $20,000; recovered a quantity of stolen property, including a motorcycle and a computer system; and seized an SUV as proceeds of crime. Police said charges were pending against another 17 individuals, and over 130 charges were laid.

On a more positive note: The Tec-We-Gwill Women's Institute celebrated its 65th Anniversary on April 20. And on April 20, Bradford West Gwillimbury marked another milestone: the opening of the indoor Lions Pool Complex at the BWG Leisure Centre. The Aquatics Centre included a lap pool, recreation pool with giant water slide, and heated relaxation pool.

May.

The future of the old St. Mary's School Building - which houses the Happy Sixties Seniors' Club, CrossTrainers' Connections Centre (including The Hub Youth Drop-in Centre), and Bradford's Coats for Kids Depot - was up for discussion in a Facilities Committee meeting on May 8.

Director of Planning and Development Geoff McKnight presented an option that would see the old building razed, and "high density" townhomes constructed. Councillors suggested that the owners of the vacant land at 128 Barrie St., and the Simcoe Manor should be involved in any discussion of redevelopment, and that a visioning exercise should be held, to look at future uses of the municipally-owned property. The property also includes the Moore St. Hall at 123 Moore St., which houses the Food Bank. There was no discussion of an alternate location for the various social services housed in the buildings.

When Pizza Pizza CEO Paul Goddard was approached by Undercover Boss Canada, he agreed to participate: it's one way for top brass to connect with workers, and learn more about their company's strengths and weaknesses, from the inside. Goddard was paired up with Don Van Dyken, a Bradford resident - and learned about Don's daughter Eleysse, who receives support from the Community Living Association for South Simcoe (C.L.A.S.S.). Goddard was so impressed that he made a $5000 donation to C.L.A.S.S. and hosted a Pizza party for the Bradford clients on May 24.

On May 25, the new Bradford West Gwillimbury Leisure Centre at 471 West Park Ave. officially opened - including a ribbon-cutting, free swimming and skating, and the presentation of a prize to the winner of the "Name the Water Slide" contest. The winner was Connor, 9, who

see YEAR END Page 15

YOGA CLASSES

For over 10 years, Alan Sargeant has been providing informative and enjoyable Yoga classes. Come, get fit! Register online, by phone or at the class.

Newmarket: Mon & Wed 7 - 8:15 pm - Sir William Mulock
Bradford: Tues. 7 - 8:15 pm - Bradford Finance Building
Classes begin January 7
www.yogaclasses.ca 289-221-7730

New Year's resolutions

It's the end of 2012, and the start of a bright, shiny fresh New Year - which means that it's not only time for those "Top 10" Lists of the Best or worst of the passing year, but time for New Year's Resolutions.

Resolutions can range from "staying in touch with family and friends", to"finding a better job," or even "becoming a millionaire" - but the majority have to do with personal health and wellness.

Quitting smoking. Losing weight. Exercising more. Eating better.

The best part about resolutions that set a personal goal of improved health is that they are do-able, with just a little effort and assistance.

And even if you can't stick with your resolutions, trying - getting started - can make a difference. Just keep on trying...

Achieving, with Kettlebells!

Congratulations to Kettle Club member Kelly Somers, for maintaining her weight loss of 26 lbs. over the last 2 years.

Kelly participated in the Lose Fat - Get Fit Challenge from September to December 2012, losing 20 lbs. Not only has she maintained her weight loss for the past 2 years, she continues to improve her body composition. In total, she has lost 27 lbs. and 28", decreased her body fat percentage by 10.7%, and decreased her metabolic age by 22 years!

She was presented with a Kettlebell Club jacket, for her achievement.

Kettlebells are a unique weight-training device. Described as "a cannon ball with a handle", they come in a range of weights and sizes, and are used in strength, flexibility, and cardiovascular training.

The Kettlebell Club of Julie Carrique offers a holistic approach to health and fitness. Carrique is a Registered Holistic Nutritionist, Personal Trainer, Level 2 Agatsu Certified Kettlebell instructor, and Yoga Teacher.

For more information see ***www.kbclub.ca***

Submitted photo

Kettle Belle! Kettlebell Club member Kelly Somers uses kettlebell training to maintain her weight loss, and tone her muscles.

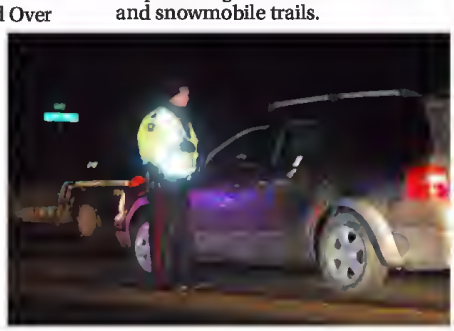
Ticket to R.I.D.E.

RIDE, from Page 1

were called to a vehicle in the ditch on 10 Sideroad in Innisfil, just after 3:30 p.m. on January 1 - and discovered an intoxicated woman behind the wheel, an intoxicated man in the front passenger seat, and two small children, ages 5 years and 3 months, in the back seat. The 29 year old Brampton woman was charged with Impaired, and Over .080, the man was charged with Public Intoxication, and the children were apprehended by Children's Aid and placed in foster care.

And there were repeat offenders. On December 28, a 27 year old Pefferlaw woman registered in the WARN range at a RIDE check, and investigation showed that not only had she received a 3-day suspension, 2 years ago, she was currently driving with a suspended driver's licence. In addition to a new 7-day suspension, she was charged with Drive while under Suspension.

Although the Festive R.I.D.E. campaign has wrapped up, police will continue to set up R.I.D.E. checks through the new year - and for the next week, will be focussing on patrolling the Lake Simcoe area and snowmobile trails.



South Simcoe Police check a driver on Yonge St. at the 7th Line, on December 30.

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• 99 Days For $99*
• Tanning
• First Month Free
• Waived Key Fob Charge
*certain restrictions apply
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Sports

BWGMHA Local League

MAJOR MIDGET LL

Dec. 3, TNT #1 - 5, Bradford Major Midget #3 Majik Refrigeration - 2. Both goals by Jesse Myers, with an assist to Kenny Kooring.

Dec. 10, Bradford #3 Majik Refrigeration - 4, Oak Ridges #2 - 1. Scoring by Jordan Silvert, Cole Kirschner, Quinten Vey and Jesse Myers, from Reiley Stefanyk, Myers, Matt Sousa and Mitchell Brenham.

Dec. 17, Bradford #3 Majik Refrigeration - 5, Bradford #2 - 0. Goals by Reiley Stefanyk, Jordan Silvert (unassisted), David Papais, Nicholas Wallen and Jeremy Minnema (unassisted). Helpers to Brandon Buck (2), and Brandon Dawe Cooper.

Dec. 20, Bradford #3 Majik Refrigeration - 2, Innisfil #1 - 1. Goals by Matt Majik from Jesse Myers; and with the winning goal, Myers from Reiley Stefanyk and Nicholas Wallen.

Dominion Tankard

The 2013 Dominion Tankard will be held at the Barrie Molson Centre, this February 4-11.

It will be the first time that Barrie has hosted a Provincial Championship - and Glenn Howard, a native of Midland, is delighted.

"We couldn't be more excited, as it is literally right in our backyard," said Howard. "For years I have been saying that Barrie should host a Provincial Championship. Now it has come to fruition. The best curling in the province will come to Barrie next February. We will be there in an attempt to win our 8th straight title."

"It's very exciting to have Glenn and his team confirmed so soon for the Dominion Tankard 2013," said Ken Leach, Executive Chair of the event.

"Team Howard is so popular in this area, and Glenn is such an ambassador for the sport, it's terrific to have their support."

For more information or tickets, see **www.thedominiontankard2013.ca**

Hosted by the Barrie Curling Club. Hurry hard!

BRADFORD CURLING CLUB 1860

Looking for something to do this winter?

BRADFORD CURLING CLUB is Offering Discounted Half Season Memberships to New Members. $129 / person

New Curlers Welcome! Relaxed, Social Environment.

Tuesday Night Mixed
Wednesday Night Ladies
Thursday Night Mens
Friday Night Mixed

Please respond by January 10th.
membership@bradfordcurlingclub.ca
www.bradfordcurlingclub.ca

129 Simcoe Road
Bradford, Ontario
TEL: 905-775-4444

Silver Stick Tourney

Bradford's Minor Peewees participated in the Vaughan Silver Stick tournament.

Game 1, Bradford Everest Supply - 5, Georgetown - 2. Markers by Anthony Roberts with a pair, singles by Evan Cribbie, Clark Carruthers and Jacob Lush, on assists from Matthew Barroso (2), Daniel Crosby, Nicholas Brundige and Tristan Longfield.

Game 2, Aurora - 3, Bradford Everest Supply - 2, in a heart-breaker. Goals by Keegan Steyn and Anthony Roberts, with an assist to Nicholas Brundige.

Game 3, West Mall - 5, Bradford Everest Supply - 0. Tough loss, but strong effort from Brenden Giasson and Ryan Macdonald.

Scouts' Fundraising Spaghetti Dinner

1st Bradford Scouting is holding a Spaghetti Dinner at the Bond Head Community Hall, on Saturday, January 12, starting at 5 p.m. - a fundraiser to help cover the cost of sending Bradford Youth and Leaders to the Canadian Jamboree, July 6 to 13, 2013, at Sylvan Lake, Alberta. Enjoy Salad, Spaghetti and Meatballs, and a Dessert made by Scouting youth, plus tea, coffee or juice, for only $10. Also - Silent Auction! To reserve tickets for the dinner call 905-778-0809. Also wanted: items for door prizes! Please call to donate.

Walk/Skate for Memories

The Alzheimer Society of Greater Simcoe County's annual Walk/Skate for Memories is Sunday, January 27, 2013 at the Holly Community Centrei n Barrie. Register at 9:30 a.m. Sign up at ***www.walkformemories.ca***

$$ MONEY $$
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Environment Canada's Top 10 events

According to Environment Canada, 2012's Top 10 weather stories were:

1. The Big Heat. Record temperatures across Canada.

2. Super Storm Sandy, in a season of 19 named hurricanes.

3. Flooding, landslides and washed out roads in British Columbia, due to a wet spring and summer.

4. March Meteorological Madness - with record high temperatures in March, reaching 30 degrees C in Nova Scotia on March 22.

5. Record rainfall in the prairies - including 33 tornado touchdowns in Saskatchewan.

6. The Big Melt. Sea ice in the Arctic dropped 18% below the record low seen in 2007.

7. High and Dry in the East. Southern Ontario and Quebec had the mildest and driest winter and spring on record.

8. Urban flooding in Thunder Bay, Montreal and Toronto.

9. All Hail to Calgary. Hailstorms on August 12 and 14 caused $200 million in damage in Calgary - a figure which pales in comparison to the $400 million in damage caused by hail in 2010.

10. Historic ice jam on the Saint John River led to the evacuation of 500 residents.

The impact of enviro-disasters

Superstorm Sandy walloped the eastern seaboard of the United States, between October 29 and 31, causing billions of dollars in damage - and hit Canada. The Insurance Bureau of Canada estimates the property damaged caused by the storm in Ontario and parts of Quebec will reach $100 million.

In Canada, two people died and more than 150,000 were left without power; trees were toppled, power lines downed, roofs were damaged by winds gusting to 100 kmph, and heavy rains caused localized flooding and sewer back-ups.

Ralph Palumbo, IBC's Ontario Vice President, warns that the number "is a preliminary estimate, and we expect that consumers may continue to have insurance questions during the claims process."

Starting in 2013, Economical Insurance and Family Insurance Solutions will no longer offer earthquake insurance to homeowners in the Metro Vancouver and southern Vancouver Island areas. The move comes in the wake of the decision by major insurance providers, including Aviva Canada, Intact Insurance and Wawanesa to increase earthquake insurance rates and deductibles in BC, based on new Earthquake Risk modelling, and new mapping of the earthquake fault lines and subduction zones along coastal BC. Other factors in the decision: the major losses experienced due to earthquakes in Japan, New Zealand and Chile, over the past 2 years - and two recent earthquakes that occurred off coastal BC on October 28 and November 7, that measured 7.7 and 6.3 on the Richter Scale, respectively.

Homeowners in British Columbia are being advised to shop around - and to prepare for an earthquake.

Scouts Bottle Drive

1st Bradford Scouting is holding a Bottle Drive this Saturday, January 5, 2013 - raising funds to help offset the cost of sending Bradford Youth to the Canadian Jamboree, July 6 to 13, 2013, at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

Scouts (in uniform) will begin knocking on doors around 9:15 a.m., asking for donations of returnable bottles.

To arrange for a pick-up in advance, call 905-778-0809 or 905-960-4400.

Bridging courses

from Page 7

. Bridging Course on "Young Motherhood". A grade of "B" or higher will offer admission to York University. Orientation on Thurs., Jan. 10 at 6:30 p.m., at the Young Parent Resource Centre, 1900 Sheppard Ave. W. Course begins Jan. 17, and runs every Thurs., 6:30-9:30 p.m. $150 plus books. Contact Celeta Irvin, 416-736-2100 ext. 77818 or ***cirvin@yorku.ca*** for info.

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Raising the issue of fill

Bradford West Gwillimbury Councillor Gary Lamb asked for a staff report on "fill and dirt, and bow valuable it's become, and where are they going to put it."

Lamb noted that the dumping of fill in rural areas is a growing concern, as Toronto contractors look for places to dump excavated soil. "They don't have the Leslie Street Spit to dump any longer... so the dirt's all coming this way."

He cited several recent examples of filling, on the 12th Line and 9th Line of BWG. "We're now on the radar," Lamb said, asking for an update. "The contractor wins because he gets rid of the dirt. The truck driver wins because he gets paid. The dirt broker wins because he puts it all together" - and even the landowner receives compensation, "but how do we win? They're also beating the hell out of our roads, depending on what route they take."

He what to know "what are we facing, and how can we be adequately compensated - and not become less than what we are."

York-Simcoe Naturalists

York Simcoe Naturalists meet Tuesday, January 8 at 7:30 p.m., at the River Drive Park Community Centre, 20 Oak Ave. in River Drive Park (off Queensville SR, north of Holland Landing). Guest speaker is James Patterson of Ontario Nature, on the Amphibian and Reptile Atlas project. Refreshments will be served - please lug a mug.

For more information, contact York Simcoe Naturalists at ***www.facebook.com/yorksimcoenaturalists*** or ***ysnclub@yahoo.ca***

Horticultural Bursaries

The Dr. Raymond E. Ives Horticultural Award offers funding to students living in Simcoe County, enrolled in a 2-year or longer Horticultural or Agricultural program. If funds allow, students enrolled in shorter programs will also be considered. For info or applications, call Kathy Barraclough at 905-853-8785 or ***doug.barraclough@sympatico.ca*** or see ***www.gardenontario.org*** for District 16, click on News.

Photo by Miriam King, Bradford Times

A look back at 2012: Different kinds of horse-power - a horse-drawn grader, and the 910 Steam Locomotive - at the Simcoe County Museum, during Wheels & Tracks in Motion, June 9, 2012.

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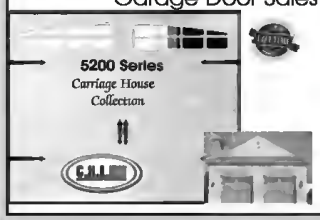

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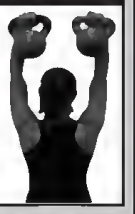

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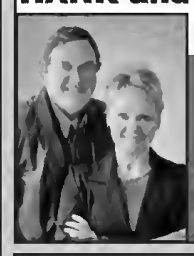

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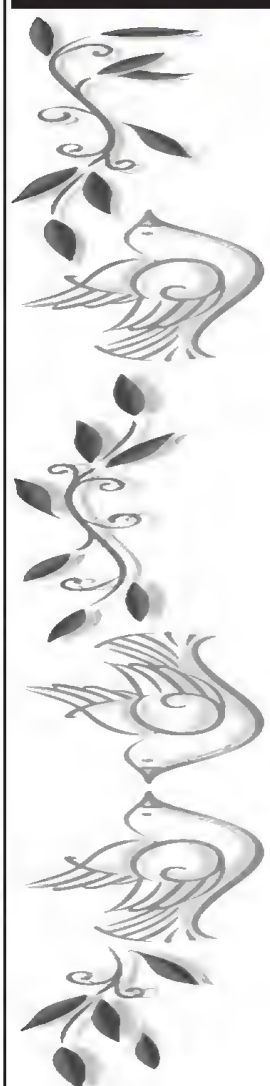

CONSTABLE, Jean - Peacefully passed away at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket on Thursday, December 27, 2012. Jean Constable (nee Watt) of Churchill at 91 years of age. Beloved wife of the late Mac Constable. Loving mother of Ian (Marilyn) Constable and David (Sheryl) Constable. Cherished grandma of Janece (John) Kristman, Natasha Constable(Chris Boan), Nikki (Derek) Watts and Kent (Christina) Constable. Proud great grandmother of Ian and Mackenzie; Abbigayle; Ryenne and Jackson; Ethan, Lauren and Jaylin. Dear sister of the late Temple (Marie), late Evaleen (late Mac) Stewart and Dorothy (Dick) Worgan. Jean will also be fondly remembered by her nieces and nephews. Friends may call at **SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME**, 30 Simcoe Rd., Bradford for a memorial visitation on Saturday, January 5, 2013 from 1 p.m. until the time of a memorial service in the Chapel at 2 p.m. In Jean's memory, donations may be made to the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario.
12714048

DONALD, Kenneth Ross - Peacefully passed away at Bradford Valley Long Term Care on Monday, December 24, 2012. Ken Donald of Bradford and formerly of Mt. Forest at 59 years of age. Beloved husband of Debbie (nee Timbers). Loving dad of Kimberly (Michael) Pegg and Tara (Grant) Brouwer. Proud Poppa of Lilly Brouwer. Dear son of Elwood and late Lillian Donald. Dear brother of Diane (Ernie) McDougall, Marie (Barry) Leibold, Jim (Lois) Donald and Kate (Jean-Pierre) LeBlanc. Dear son-in-law of Stan and Betty Timbers. Dear brother-in-law of Jan Mokund and Gwen (Don) Cormack. Ken will be fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews. Friends called at the Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church, 18935 Duffarin St., Newmarket for visitation on Friday, December 28, 2012 from 10 a.m. until the time of a funeral service at the Church at 11 a.m. Interment Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Bradford. In Ken's memory, donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society. Arrangements entrusted to **SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME**, Bradford (905-775-3335).
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RICHARDSON, Nancy - Suddenly, but peacefully passed away at Southlake Ragional Haalth Cantra, Nawmarkat on Seturdey, December 22, 2012. Nancy Richardson of Bradford and formerly of Brantford at 82 years of age. Beloved mother of Dawn (James) McGinnis. Proud grandma of Mark (Kim). Dear sister of Jean Donkin. Dear aunt of Paul. Friends called at St. John's Presbyterian Church, Bradford for visitation on Saturday, Dacembar 29, 2012 from 10:30 e.m. until the time of e funerel service at the Church at 12 noon followed by cremation. In Nancy's memory, donations may be made to the St. John's Presbyterian Church or the Canadian Diabetes Association. Arrangements entrusted to **SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME**, Bradford (905-775-3335).

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REYNOLDS, Wallace (Duck) - In memory of a loving husband, father and papa, who passed away January 2, 2011

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With sadness we recall.
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That loved us well and true.
Ah, bitter was the trial to part
From one so good as you.
You are not forgotten loved one
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- Forever remembered by June, Cindy, Gary & Tara, Brandon & Tasha
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2012 in Review

YEAR END from Page 8
suggested calling the slide "Blue Tornado."

The inaugural Sapper Brian Collier baseball tournament took place May 26 in Bradford, raising funds for scholarships, in memory Sapper Brian Collier.

Also on May 26 - the Bradford Farmers' Market opened for the season at a new, high-profile location: the parking lot of the new Bradford Public Library on Holland St. West. It was an instant success.

June.

On June 10, the 2nd annual Run for Bradford (BWG) took place, organized by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at or AMJ Community of Bradford - a fundraiser for the community that attracted over 100 participants, despite stifling heat.

BWG Council approved plans of subdivision for 334 homes on 54 hectares in the north part of Bond Head, and another 723 residential units on 62 hectares south of 88/7th Line in the hamlet. Residents of Bond Head packed the Council chambers on June 19 - raising concerns over access, traffic, and the impact on old Bond Head, and questioning the rush: residents and Council had only 1 week to review the draft plans of subdivision. However, a majority of Council voted to move forward, noting that servicing of the Employment Lands along Hwy 400 is tied to residential development in Bond Head.

The biggest news in June also had to do with Bond Head: the Bond Head Festival 175, June 22 to 24 - a 3-day event celebrating the 175th birthday of the hamlet located at the intersection of County Roads 27 and 88. Activities included a Farmers' Market, Art Market, Live music, contests, a Parade, official ceremonies and guest speakers - including an appearance by Sir Francis Bond Head, after whom the hamlet was named.

Bradford's new splash pads officially opened on June 28!

July.

July 1 had special meaning in Bradford this year. The Mayor and members of the Collier family unveiled a street sign, proclaiming the new road between the Bradford Public Library and the BWG Leisure Centre, as "Brian Collier Way" - a permanent memorial to the graduate of Bradford District High School, who went on to serve with distinction in Afghanistan, until his death in 2010 at the hands of the insurgents. A plaque in Sapper Brian Collier's honour was also unveiled inside the Centre, during a ceremony attended by BWG Council, members of the Canadian Forces including Brigadier-General Louis Meloche, and the public.

Word filtered out that there were plans to close Bradford's Giant Tiger Store, as of September 28. The news, the potential loss of a Junior department store within walking distance of the downtown, and the loss of as many as 30 jobs galvanized the community into an "unprecedented" outpouring of love and support for the Tiger, and a "Save the Tiger" campaign, in the press and online. The campaign continued into August. Councillor James Leduc joined resident Les Showers in handing out petitions, and Leduc and Mayor Doug White met with Giant Tiger top brass in Ottawa, in an effort to change their minds. There was even a "Shop in" on August 25. And on September 6 - a reprieve! Head office announced that the Giant Tiger Store would be staying open until at least January 2013, to give residents an opportunity to bring sales back to 2007 levels, and show their support. On September 28, instead of closing, the store held a "Grand Re-opening" - filled with emotion. Has it been enough? The community will find out in January.

August

Voted one of the top 100 Festivals in all of Canada, CarrotFest returned to Bradford on August 18 - with vendors, entertainment, Dock Dogs, the CarrotFast Run, Pancake Breakfast and more. Wow!

Local residents received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, commemorating the 60th year of the Queen's reign. The medals were presented to 60,000 Canadians, from Coast to Coast - including local residents Carol Collier, Frank Ferragine, Carl Hordyk, Dave Minnema, Mikki Nanowski, Gerda Slykhuis, Nancy Young, G. Michael Comeau, Sylvia Luxton, Nancy Morrison and Jack MacFadden for their ongoing support for the community.

And the Town lost one of those medal recipients: Jack MacFadden, founder of Coats for Kids, educator and author, passed away at Southlake Regional Health Centre. His legacy, and Coats for Kids, will continue. Son Phil MacFadden has taken on the role of president, and the volunteers - including students from Holy Trinity High School - will continue to keep the grassroots organization in operation, encouraging residents to donate gently used and outgrown children's winterwear, to be given to those in need. The Coats for Kids Depot is closed for the holidays, but reopens on January 10, at 5:30 p.m.

To be continued...

community listings

MEETINGS

SOUL SURVIVORS: A Cancer Support Community meets the 1st Weds. of the month at Trinity Anglican Church, 7:30 p.m. For cancer survivors and those currently experiencing cancer - a support group in a spiritual context, followed by a short contemplative service of healing. Contact Fr. Dan Graves, 905-775-2200.

AL-ANON: Meets Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Holy Martyrs of Japan Church basement, 167 Essa St. in Bradford. For information, www.al-anon.alateen.org, wso@al-anon.org or call 1-888-4AL-ANON.

SPEAK FOR SUCCESS TOASTMASTERS: Toastmasters meet on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Tues. of each month upstairs at the new BWG Leisure Centre. 7-9 p.m. For information see www.speakforsuccess.org All welcome.

WEEKLY BINGO: Innisfil Lions Club host a weekly Bingo, Mondays. 5 p.m. doors open, 6:45 p.m. Bingo begins, at the Lions Hall on Innisfil Beach Rd., Alcona. Refreshments available. For info, call 705-436-1826.

SHOUT SISTER CHOIR: The Choir is looking for new members. Practices are Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m. in the Davis Room of Stouffville United Church, 34 Church St. N., Stouffville. www.shoutsisterchoir.ca

HELP FOR IMMIGRANTS: Bradford Immigrant & Community Services (BICS) located at 11 Holland St. East offers English Language Classes for Newcomers to Canada, Settlement Assistance, Integration to the Canadian School System Program, Parenting Workshops, Translation and Interpretation services, Form completion and document help, Information and referral, advocacy and more. 905-775-3343 or see www.bradfordimmigrant.com

BWG COMMUNITY MEAL: A free hot meal and fellowship for anyone on fixed income, social assistance, struggling to make ends meet, lonely, or families trying to stretch their food budgets, at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. in Bradford. Every Friday at 5:30 p.m.

T.O.P.S.: TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) is a weight loss support group that meets at the Lions Pool Bldg. Tuesday evenings, 6-7 p.m. No charge to drop in and see what TOPS is all about. Membership is $32 per year and $2 per meeting. For details call Edna, 905-775-9018.

ST. MICHAEL'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH: 721 Simcoe Rd., Bradford. Fundraising perogies and cabbage rolls sale every Friday, from noon to 6 p.m., Sat. and Sun. 12:30 to 4 p.m. Info, call the church 905-551-1651.

WRITERS' CIRCLE AT COFFEE CULTURE: BWG Writers' Circle now meets socially every Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at Coffee Culture in Bradford - by the fireplace! Exception is the 3rd Tues. of the month, when the Circle meets at the New Bradford Library.

SAT., JAN. 5

OGS SHOW & TELL: The Simcoe County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets at 2 p.m., at the LDS Church, 79 Ferris Lane in Barrie for its Annual "Show and Tell." Members will share highlights of their family histories. All welcome. Book table opens at 1:30 p.m. For info, call Ken at 705-728-1170.

1ST BRADFORD SCOUTING BOTTLE DRIVE: Starting at 9:15 a.m., First Bradford Scouts in uniform will be collecting returnable bottles, as a fundraiser to help pay for a trip to Sylvan Lake, Alberta for a Jamboree this summer. To arrange for a pick-up, contact 905-778-0809 or 905-960-4400.

TUES., JAN. 8

YORK SIMCOE NATURALISTS MEET: At the River Drive Park Community Centre, 20 Oak Ave. in River Drive Park (north of Holland Landing, off Queensville SR), 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker is James Patterson from Ontario Nature, on the Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project. Refreshments - please lug a mug. Info email ysnclub@yahoo.ca

THURS., JAN. 10

ALZHEIMER AWARENESS WORKSHOP: At the CHATS Medichair Offices, 448 Holland St. W. (Hakim Optical plaza), 2-3:30 p.m. Co-hosted by CHATS and the Alzheimer Society of Greater Simcoe County - learn the facts about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, discover pro-active brain health strategies. Free, but pre-register at 1-866-677-9048 ex. 6226.

SAT., JAN. 12

SCOUTS SPAGHETTI DINNER: 1st Bradford Scouting hosts a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction at the Bond Head Community Hall , 5 p.m. Only $10 per person. For tickets call 905-778-0809.

MON., JAN. 14

LITTLE CHEFS: Program for preschoolers 2.5 to 5 years old and parents, at the Ontario Early Years Centre, 118 Barrie St. in Bradford. 9:30-11 a.m., for story, and related activities, including circle time, food and craft. Free but pre-register at 905-775-3039 ext. 229. 4-week program.

TUES., JAN. 15

LIFE WITH BABY: A 10-week interactive and informative program for first-time parents of children ages 0 to 10 months, at the Ontario Early Years Centre, 118 Barrie St. in Bradford. 1:30 to 3 p.m. Parents will meet with professionals, share experiences and ideas, and get solid information on their baby and the topic of the week. Free, but pre-register at 905-775-3039 ext. 229.

CANCER EDUCATION LECTURE: Stronach Regional Cancer Centre at Southlake, in Newmarket, offers a free lecture, "Cancer screening sees what you can't", presented by Joy Elkayam, MSc. 5:15 p.m. in the lobby level conference room. Free, but please pre-register at 905-895-4521 ext. 6947

ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUP: Meets at CHATS Medichair offices, 448 Holland St. W. in Bradford, units 8-12 at 10 a.m. Family and friends caring for a person with Alzheimer's or a related dementia can share information and coping strategies in a safe place. For info, call 705-722-1066, the Alzheimer Society of Greater Simcoe County.

WEDS., JAN. 16

GRANDPARENTS, PARENTING AGAIN: Support group for grandparents with formal or informal custody of their grandchildren. Meets 1-3 p.m. at the Ontario Early Years Centre, 118 Barrie St. in Bradford. Childcare available for children ages 0-6.

THURS., JAN. 17

TODDLER TUNES: A 4-week program for parents and their children ages 2-4. Learn new songs, stories and dances to share with your child, at the Ontario Early Years Centre, 118 Barrie St. in Bradford. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free, but pre-register at 905-775-3039 ext. 229.

FRI., JAN. 18

LIBRARY ON THE LOOSE: Drop in to the Ontario Early Years Centre, 118 Barrie St. in Bradford, for stories, books and surprises from the public library - free.

SAT., JAN. 19

HAVE A BALL, AT THE ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., at 118 Barrie St. in Bradford, preschoolers ages 2 and a half to 6 will enjoy exercise using bean bags, balls, an obstacle course and more - followed by a healthy snack. Pre-register at 905-775-3039 ext. 229. Free.

Parenting Programs closed

Both the Young Parent Program, and the Mother Care/Next Step program, which meet at the Ontario Early Years Centre in Bradford, at 118 Barrie St., are taking a break for the holidays.

The Young Parent Program for pregnant and parenting youth under the age of 25 will be closed for two weeks, starting Monday, December 24. The program reopens on Monday, January 7, 2013.

The Mother Care/Next Step program for pregnant and parenting women with children up to 2 years of age will be closed for 2 weeks starting Wednesday, December 26, reopening on Wednesday, January 9, 2013.

For more information, call 905-775-1498. All services are free and confidential.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Springdale Christian Reformed Church
1468 Sideroad #5, Bredford.
905-775-3731
Sundays 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Nursery
Pastor Paul VanStralen
www.springdalecrc.net

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
53 Miller Park Ave., Bradford
905-775-3412
Sunday Service:
11:15 a.m.
Rev Adrian Toms

Newton Robinson United Church
Hwy. 27 & Conc. 10 Tecumseth
Service 9:30 a.m.

Bond Head United Church
Hwy. 88 east of Hwy. 27
Service 11 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery Available
905-775-2512

Holy Martyrs of Japan Catholic Church
167 Essa St. Bredford 905-775-2065
Masses
Sat. 5:00 p.m., Sun. 8:30 a.m.,10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Confessions
1/2 hour before Sunday mass.

Trinity Anglican Church
82 Church St., Bradford
(Corner of Church & James St.)
Sundey Services 9em & 10:30em
905-775-2200
trinityanglicanchurchbradford.ca

Bradford United Church
66 Barrie St.,
905-775-7268
Service -11 am
Sunday School & Nursery Available
www.bradforduc.com

St. John's Presbyterian
2940 - 10th Sideroed
(8th Line & Middletown SR)
905-77S-7274
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery provided.
stjohnspresbyterien.ca

St. Paul's Anglican Church
Coulson's Hill
(NW corner of County Rd. #4 & 11th Line)
Sundey Service et 10:00 e.m.
Sundey School with Service
289-231-3253

Bradford Alliance Church
Sunday Celebration Service: 10 a.m.
Nursery/Kidz Church (0-11): 10 a.m.
Prayer Gathering: Sundays at 7:00 pm
Midweek activities for Youth and Adults
758 Simcoe Rd. • 905-778-0068

Bradford Community Church
Mid-week small group
905-775-9268, located on the S E. corner of Hwy #11 & Conc. #9
Sunday Worship: 10:30 e.m.
Nursery - Birth to 3 yrs Children 4-12 yrs

St. Michael'a Ukrainian Orthodox Church
721 Simcoe Rd, Bradford
Bilingual Services
Liturgy Sunday & Feast Days 10:00 am
Priest 905-715-0105

Riverdrive Bible Chapel
905-836-1798
#20246 Bathurst (North of Hwy 11)
11:00 am - Family Bible Hour
6:30 pm - Evening Service
7:30 pm Wed. - Prayer - Bible Study
Kids Club Mon. 6.30pm Community Centre

St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church
(Byzantine Rite)
16 Heam St. Bond Head, Sunday Eucharist:
9:30am (Ukrainian), 11:30am (English)
905-775-8282
info@stcatherineofalexandria.ca

Bradford Baptist Church
3224-10th Sdrd
(2 km north of Holland St. W)
9 em - Portuguese Service
10:30 am - English Service
10:30 am - Kids Program (Toddler-Grade 8)
Mid-Week Youth Program & Portuguese Ministry
905-775-5700
www.bbcweb.ca

Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church
18935 Dufferin St., R.R. #2 Newmarket
Sundays 10:00 em & 6:00 pm
Sunday School & Nursery with service
Mid-week youth & adult programs
Rev. Richard Bodini
905-775-7291
E: hollandmarshcrc@rogers.com